

Get Techie in 2012- Cool New Tools and Apps

Lose Weight. Work Out More. Get Organized. Were any of those goals on the top of your list for New Year's resolutions? You'll certainly find articles in my publications- this one included- about ways to accomplish the first two goals. But what about finding ways to be more organized, productive and maybe even more creative at work?

There are a host of new tools and applications for both traditional computers and mobile devices that might help you meet your goal, and impress a colleague or two to boot. Here's a list of applications you may want to consider:

Prezi: Prezi is cloud based presentation software that blurs the line between slides and white boards. You can easily rotate screen items or zoom in and out of your screen (similar to using your fingers to enlarge/shrink the screen on your iPhone). It is great software for brainstorming sessions, as it allows you to visually organize the importance of data on the screen. There are both free and paid subscriptions to this service.

EverNote: Misplace your sticky notes? Or wish you could share your to do list with a co-worker? Try Evernote. Evernote is a suite of software that allows you to share your notes across your device platforms and share them with others. Notes can be comprised of text, webpages, voice memos, or event photographs. There are free and paid subscription services for this product.

FlightTrackPro: Travel a lot? FlightTrackPro checks your airport delays, closures, arrival times, and temperatures in your arrival city. While that info is handy, the best features of the app are that it checks for last minute gates changes in real time for you. Flight cancelled? It will search for alternative schedules across different airlines for you. This is a paid subscription service.

mbPointer: Do a lot of presentations on the fly? Make your iPhone a presentation pointer. It works with both Mac and PC based PowerPoint software. All you need is a wifi connection. This is a for free (?) application.

DropBox- If you frequently use more than one device to read or save documents, consider downloading DropBox. Dropbox is cloud based software that allows you to sync all your documents to one place in the cloud. You can then download your documents to any device you have, resave and upload them to DropBox when you're done, and access them at a later time on a different device. This is a free application.

WeekCalendar- Yes, most mobile devices come with a calendar feature. But if you're a visual person who wants to color code you schedule or see your week's events graphically, this is the application for you. This is a paid application.

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